CHAPTER VII

THE PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH AND INDEPENDENCE LAW[1]

PASSAGE BY CONGRESS OF THE HARE-HAWES-CUTTING ACT

THE Philippine Commonwealth and Independence Law is the Act of Congress of March 24, 1934, popularly known at the Tydings-McDuffie Law from the names of the chairmen of the Senate and House Committees which reported the bill. In turn the Tydings-McDuffie Law is the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act of Congress of January 17, 1933, reenacted with amendments, and rechristened So first let us learn of the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act, thus styled because of its principal authors, Congressman Butler B. Hare and Senators Harry B. Hawes and Bronson Cutting.

When the United States Tariff Bill was before Congress in 1929, the King amendment granting the Philippines independence was rejected by the Senate by such a narrow margin that the Filipino leaders and the diverse separatist influences were encouraged to press for more decisive action on another occasion. The Senate Committee on Territories and Insular Affairs and the House Committee on Insular Affairs proceeded to conduct exhaustive hearings for months. Before these committees appeared the members of the Philip-

[1]**This chapter was read by Representative Manuel A. Roxas, member of the Philippine Mission which helped secure the passage by the Congress of the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act, and by Senator Elpidio**

Quirino, member of the Philippine Mission which helped secure the passage by the Congress of the Tydings-McDuffie Law. See Harry B. Hawes, *Philiffine Uncertainty* (1932), Camilo Osias and Mauro Baradi, *The Philtyfine Charter of Liberty* (1933), and the addresses of Senator Millard E. Tydings and President Manuel L. Quezon before the Constitutional Convention at Manila on December 22, 1934.